

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend paragraph [0001] as follows:

[0001] The present application is a continuation of copending International Patent Application PCT/EPO2/04837 filed ~~May 16, 2001~~ May 3, 2002 as a PCT application.

Please amend paragraph [0042] as follows:

[0033] The Device Abstraction Layer "DAL" facilitates the virtualization of the remotely attached device and makes it appear to device driver software as if it was locally attached to the microprocessor bus. As shown in FIG.4, the attached devices may include any of Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter (UART), Universal Serial Bus (USB), Joint Test Action Group (JTAG), and IC Bus (I<sup>2</sup>C) devices.